

News Release

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

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State-Local Partnership Provides Youth with Job Skills, Helps Improve Local Communities

The California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) today announced awards for partnership projects across the state that will provide youth with job training and employable skills while helping to improve their local communities and benefit low-income populations.

“This partnership is a win-win for California’s communities and our youth,” said CSD Interim Director John A. Wagner. “Through this state and local collaboration, we are able to provide labor at no cost to the local agency, while providing young adults with job training and employable skills, and improving the lives of low-income Californians.”

Through this partnership, CSD will pay for the labor costs of CCC corpsmembers at \$18.77 an hour to complete community projects for partnering local agencies under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). In turn, the local agency will provide the materials, and the CCC will provide the work crews including basic tools and transportation to and from the work site.

“CCC corpsmembers are young women and men from local California communities doing good things for their neighborhoods,” said CCC Program and Operations Chief Erin Healy. “Too often, we tend to focus on youth doing things wrong; these young people have chosen to spend a year of their life providing service to others. These projects will provide these young men and women with training opportunities and employable skills that will assist them in transitioning to a skilled job.”

CSD is able to provide funding for this targeted partnership under the federally-funded CSBG, which is designed to provide a range of services to assist low-income families and individuals improve their quality of life and achieve self-sufficiency. Five CSBG local agencies received awards totaling more than \$50,000 in labor costs that will be paid for by CSD:

CSBG Local Agency	Project	Location	Estimated CCC Crew Hours/Costs*
Community Action Partnership San Luis Obispo County	Living Playground Project	Nipomo (San Luis Obispo County)	600/\$11,262
Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action	Eastern Sierra Community Gardens Infrastructure Development Project	City of Bishop & Lone Pine (Inyo County)	600/\$11,262
North Coast Opportunities	Community Gardens Development Project & Food Bank Renovation Project	City of Ukiah (Mendocino County)	620/\$11,637.40
Redwood Community Action Agency	Elk River Parkway Project	City of Eureka (Humboldt County)	650/\$12,200.50
Tehama County Community Action Agency	Spring Food Share Project	cities of Red Bluff & Corning (Tehama County)	240/\$4,504.80

*Labor hours and costs are projected estimates based on project needs, and may vary slightly when the projects are completed.

For more detailed information on each of these projects, please click [here](#).

This state-local partnership was open to all local CSBG eligible entities to submit proposals, which were evaluated by the CCC and projects were selected that met at least two of the following three CCC mandates in order for corpsmembers to participate:

- Projects conserve, improve, and develop natural resources or help to maintain environmentally important lands or waters
- Projects provide public benefit or access
- Projects provide corpsmembers with opportunities for training in employable skills

The CCC employs young women and men between the ages of 18 and 25 to work on public service conservation projects throughout California. The corpsmembers work on 12-to-15 member crews with a crew supervisor. It is expected that each project under this partnership will use one CCC crew.

All of the projects under this state-local partnership are expected to be completed in 2012.

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CSD partners with a statewide network of community based organizations dedicated to helping low-income Californians achieve and maintain self-sufficiency, meet their home energy needs and reside in housing free from the dangers of lead hazards. CSD administers California's federal funding share for the Community Services Block Grant, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Weatherization Assistance Program and Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program. For more information about CSD and these programs, please visit www.csd.ca.gov.